

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 13 wherein said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is a channel stopper region.

6. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 14 wherein said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is a channel stopper region.

7. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 11 wherein said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is a channel stopper region.

8. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 12 wherein said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is a channel stopper region.

Claims 9 and 10 (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 13, wherein said transistor is a high voltage transistor having a source diffusion layer within said source side offset diffusion layer region and a drain diffusion layer within said drain side offset diffusion layer region and said source side offset diffusion layer and said drain side offset diffusion layer have impurity concentrations lower than those of said source diffusion layer and said drain diffusion layer.

12. (Previously Presented) A semiconductor device according to claim 14, wherein said transistor is a high voltage transistor having a source diffusion layer within said source side offset diffusion layer region and a drain diffusion layer within said drain side offset diffusion layer region and said source side offset diffusion layer and said drain side offset diffusion layer have impurity concentrations lower than those of said source diffusion layer and said drain diffusion layer.

13. (Currently Amended) A semiconductor device comprising:  
a source side offset diffusion layer region and a drain side offset diffusion layer region of a second conductivity type in a

transistor formed, so as to be separated from each other, in a predetermined region in a region of a first conductivity type in a semiconductor substrate;

a gate insulator film formed between said source side offset diffusion layer region and said drain side offset diffusion layer region;

a gate electrode formed on said gate insulator film; and

a diffusion layer of the first conductivity type of which an impurity concentration is higher than that of said region of the first conductivity type and which is formed so as to surround said source side offset diffusion layer region, said drain side offset diffusion layer region and said gate insulator film, wherein:

both ends of said gate insulator film in a ~~channel width~~ direction substantially perpendicular to a direction from said source side offset diffusion layer region to said drain side offset diffusion layer region form protruding portions that protrude at borders of said source side offset diffusion layer region and of said drain side offset diffusion layer region in a direction toward said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type.

said gate insulator film at said protruding portions makes  
~~so that said protruding portions of said gate insulator film make~~  
direct contact with said gate electrode, and wherein

said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is  
formed so as to surround said protruding portions, and

a position of an end of said diffusion layer of the first  
conductivity type at each of parts surrounding said protruding  
portions substantially coincides with a position of an end of  
each of said protruding portions not to be substantially present  
~~below said gate insulator film and is formed so as to be in~~  
~~contact with said protruding portions.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A semiconductor device comprising:  
a source side offset diffusion layer region and a drain side  
offset diffusion layer region of a second conductivity type in a  
transistor formed, so as to be separated from each other, in a  
predetermined region in a region of a first conductivity type in  
a semiconductor substrate;

a gate insulator film formed between said source side offset  
diffusion layer region and said drain side offset diffusion layer  
region;

a gate electrode formed on said gate insulator film; and

a diffusion layer of the first conductivity type of which an impurity concentration is higher than that of said region of the first conductivity type and which is formed so as to surround said source side offset diffusion layer region, said drain side offset diffusion layer region and said gate insulator film, wherein:

both ends of said gate insulator film in a ~~channel width~~ direction substantially perpendicular to a direction from said source side offset diffusion layer region to said drain offset diffusion layer region form protruding portions that protrude at borders of said source side offset diffusion layer region and of said drain side offset diffusion layer region in a direction toward said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type,

said gate insulator film at said protruding portions makes ~~so that said protruding portions of said gate insulator film make~~ direct contact with said gate electrode, and wherein

said diffusion layer of the first conductivity type is formed so as to surround said protruding portions and so as to be separated from the protruding portions by a predetermined distance.